



Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2022, No. 01

January 2022

Did You Know? FCC rules for RF Exposure changed effective May 3, 2021

- Categorical exemption based on emitted power per band listed in §97.13(c) – but note hams were still liable for overexposure
- After May 3, 2021 – Any new station or modified station must complete and save an RF Exposure Assessment should one be asked for by the FCC
- After May 3, 2023 – Any unmodified station existing on May 2, 2021 must have a completed assessment saved

On our website we have an assessment tool to help you complete this task: [W5sc.org/links/RF-Exposure Assessment tool](http://W5sc.org/links/RF-Exposure%20Assessment%20tool)

Editor note: My station has not been modified since May 3, 2021, but I will have to visit the club web site and see about doing this assessment. Better early than wait and possibly be surprised.



Meeting January 13, 2022 will be 7 PM at Blanco BBQ 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216, (210) 251-2602 . Program will be about RF cables.

Finding Your Grid Square & Other Hams in Your Area

Hams use Grid Squares to describe their location. Many contests also use them for the Exchange of location. (i.e. field day). There are a variety of website that can supply the information, but it always helps if you understand the basis of the information.

Maidenhead Locator System (from Wikipedia) Officially called the [Maidenhead Locator System](#), (a.k.a. QTH Locator and IARU Locator) is a geocode system used by amateur radio operators to succinctly describe their geographic coordinates, which replaced the deprecated QRA locator, that was limited to European contacts.[1] Its purpose is to be concise, accurate, and robust in the face of interference and other adverse transmission conditions. The Maidenhead Locator System can describe locations anywhere in the world.

Maidenhead locators are also commonly referred to as QTH Locator, grid locators or grid squares, although the "squares" are distorted on any non-equirectangular cartographic projection. Use of the terms QTH locator and QRA locator was initially discouraged, as it caused confusion with the older QRA locator system. The only abbreviation recommended indicating a Maidenhead reference in Morse code and radio teleprinter transmission was LOC, as in LOC KN28LH.[1]

(Continued on Page 5)

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
01	R		N5YBG		San Antonio, TX		January 2022
TO							

Hello Fellow Hams!

Club Presideng Rosendo Guzman is still under the weather with some health issues . Hoping you can attend the first meeting of the new year. The club has a great year of activities planned. The bands are opening up and DX stations are more in evidence. Hope everyone can stay healthy, be active and enjoy this great hobby of ours.

Good DX
 Jim Neff, WJ4M for Rosendo Guzman – N5YBG

Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:



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The due date for articles is the **Monday** before the first **Thursday** of the month

San Antonio Radio Club
Meeting Minutes (repeated here since there was no December meeting)
November 11, 2021

President Rosendo Guzman, N5YBG, called the meeting to order at 7 PM
Introductions by President Guzman

Vice President Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW: Presentation on SSB by Robert Rodriguez, K5AUW.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved without changes by unanimous consent.

Secretary, Jack Bannin, N5JLB...minutes in newsletter found at w5sc.org website.

Treasurer, Jeff Boys ND8B...No Report

Newsletter Editor, Jim Neff, WJ4M...newsletter was posted on 9 November.

Webmaster: Bill Craft, KD2HIQ...Posted newsletter, updated VE information, updated JOTA page with pictures, updated membership page and application for 2022, created Tailgate page.

Groups IO...Updated membership list, updated calendar, tailgate notice, Mail chimp, meeting notice, Zoom, Radio Fiesta 2022 to vendors, Facebook: Tailgate post twitter, Radio Fiesta vendors notice for October 1 Eventbrite.

Web Site Statistics, info not valid

Facebook Statistics, Last 28 days Followers: 669; people reached:106; Post Engagements: 29

Membership: Bill Craft, KD2HIQ...As of 10/31/2021, 130 paid members, 3 free, 21 family members, 79 ARRL members, total members: 154.

Chairman of the Board Report, Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, No Report

Education and Training: David Finell, N7LRY, No Report

Executive: Rosendo Guzman, N5YBG – Tailgate December 4th at Encino Library from 8 AM to 2 PM, 2515 East Evans Road, San Antonio, TX 78259.

--Scholarship Prizes for 2022: 1st: FT-DX101D, \$3,199.95, 100W SDR; 2nd, IC7100, \$929.95; 3rd Alinco DJ-MD5TGP Dual Band DMR HT, \$169.95; 4th Maxcon OCF-3K80 \$89.95; Total: \$4,389.80.

Emergency Communications – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ—No report

Field Day – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, No report

Finance and Review – Paul Guido, N5IUT. Completed audit of club's books, all passed.

JOTA – John Douglas, W5NZK: 112 scouts, 42 adults, parents and leaders.

Silent Key Committee—Bill Craft, KD2HIQ – No Report

Radio Fiesta 2022: Changed vendor ticket sales to October 1, 2021 in Everntbrite. October 4th first vendor signed up. Door prizes: 1st, FT891 \$639.95; 2nd, FT70-DR, \$174.95; 3rd, Maxcon OCF-3K80, \$89.95; Total: \$904.85

VE Team – Pat Knight AD5BR—Benny Martinez, NU5P—Will be testing in the 3rd week of November.

Centennial Commemoration (Temporary), Tom O’Brien, AB5XZ – No Report

Nominating Committee—Active—Paul Guido, N5IUT reported following nominees for election:

President: Rosendo Guzman N5YBG
Vice President: Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW
Secretary: Jack Bannin, N5JLB
Treasurer: Jon April, KI5CSK
Staying as Director, Pat Knight, AD5BR

Nominations being closed with no other nominations, the slate of officers was approved by acclamation.

Christmas party location has been changed to Haciends Barrios on Redland Road due to scheduling conflict at Mamacita’s. It will be on 8 December.

Old Business: None

Announcements for good of Amateur Radio: K5MUG announced items for sale; ear buds and an Echo Dot.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM



Volunteer Examiners at Work



Benny Martinez NU5P – No report as of publication time.

73,

Pat Knight AD5BR

210-273-5927 iPhone

(Note, Pat is temporarily off line for VE, please check with hamtest@gmail.com to schedule a test)

Finding Your Grid Square & Other Hams in Your Area (Continued from Page 1)

John Morris G4ANB originally devised the system and it was adopted at a meeting of the IARU VHF Working Group in Maidenhead, England in 1980.

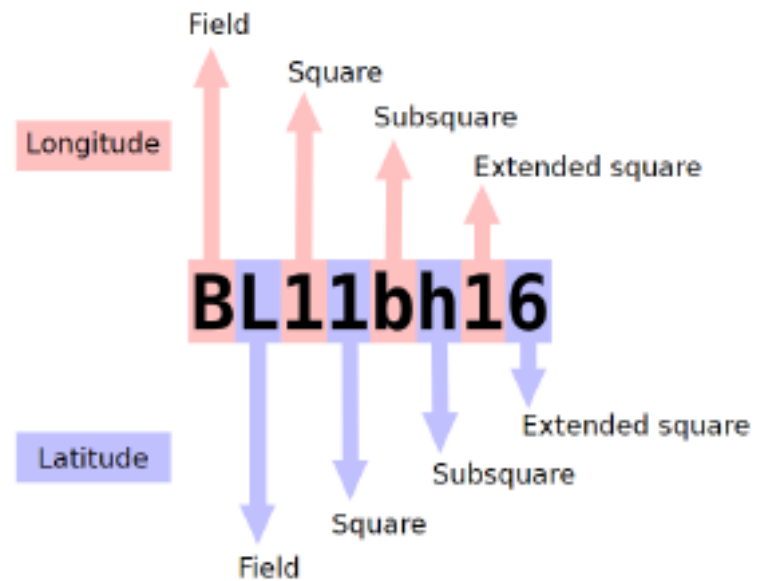
A Maidenhead locator compresses latitude and longitude into a short string of characters, which is similar in concept to the World Geographic Reference System or GEOREF. This position information is presented in a limited level of precision to limit the number of characters needed for its transmission using voice, Morse code, or any other operating mode.[4]

The chosen coding uses alternating pairs of letters and digits, like so:

BL11bh16

In each pair, the first character encodes longitude and the second character encodes latitude.[5] These character pairs also have traditional names, and in the case of letters, the range of characters (or "encoding base number") used in each pair does vary.

The world is divided into 324 (18×18) Maidenhead fields.



To avoid negative numbers in the input data, the system specifies that latitude is measured from the South Pole to the North Pole, and longitude measured eastward from the antemeridian of Greenwich, giving the Prime Meridian a false easting of 180° and the equator a false northing of 90°.

To simplify manual encoding, the base for the first pair of letters—traditionally called a field—was chosen to be 18, thus dividing the globe into 18 zones of longitude of 20° each, and 18 zones of latitude 10° each. These zones are encoded with the letters "A" through "R".



Fields are divided into 100 squares each.

The resulting Maidenhead sub square locator string is hence composed of two letters, two digits, and two more letters. To give an example, W1AW, the American Radio Relay League's Hi-

For even more precise location mapping, two additional digits were proposed and ratified as an extended locator, making it altogether eight characters long, and dividing sub squares into even smaller ones. Such precision has uses in very short communication spans. Beyond this, no common definition exists to extend the system further into even smaller squares. Most often the extending is done by repeating alternating sub square and square rules (base numbers 24 and 10 respectively). However, other bases for letter encodings have also been observed, and therefore, such extended locators might not be compatible.

Finding Your Grid Square

You can use a variety of methods to find your location's Grid Squaremaps, websites, Phone Apps, GPS, etc. Listed below is some of the more common websites and what the format looks like.

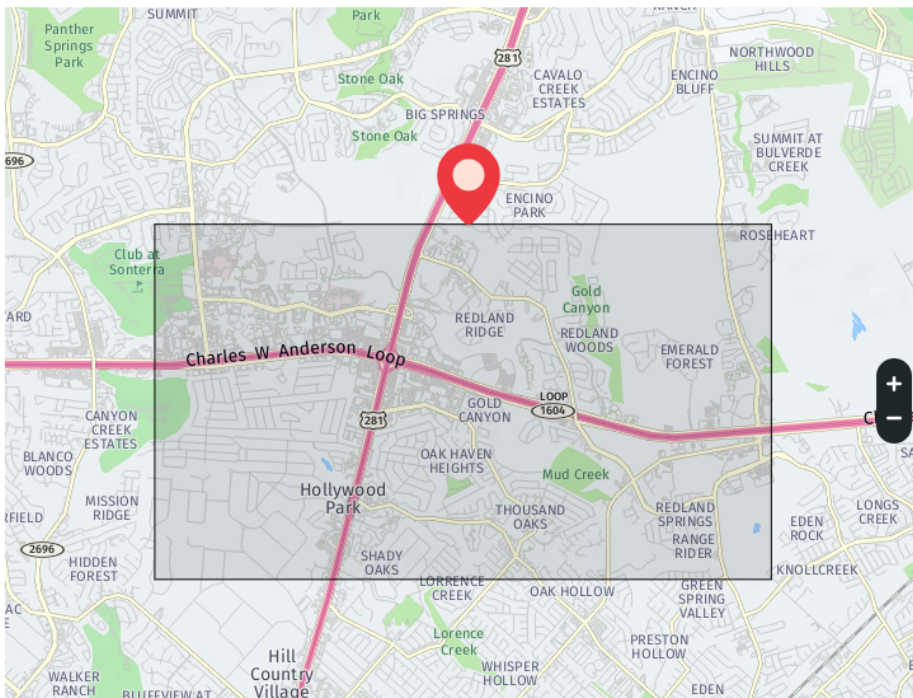
Amateur Radio Ham Radio Maidenhead Grid Square Locator Map

Enter any address, city & state or zip:
or Enter any call sign: Data provided by [QRZ.com](https://qrz.com)
or Enter any a 4 or 6 character grid square:
[?? How does this work? Why doesn't this work? ??](#)

Call [KD2HIQ](#) found for [G W Craft, 770](#)

Latitude: 29.6249856 / 29° 37' 29" N Longitude: -98.4575414 / 98° 27' 27" W

Grid: **EL09so** (QRZ: **EL09sk**)



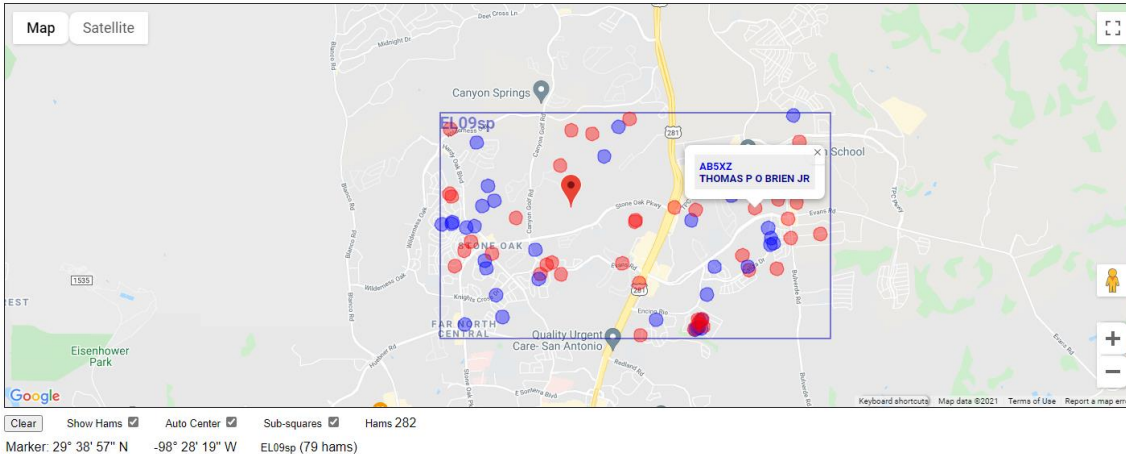
- [QRZ.com Grid Mapper](#)

Not only does it give you your information, it lists other hams in your grid.

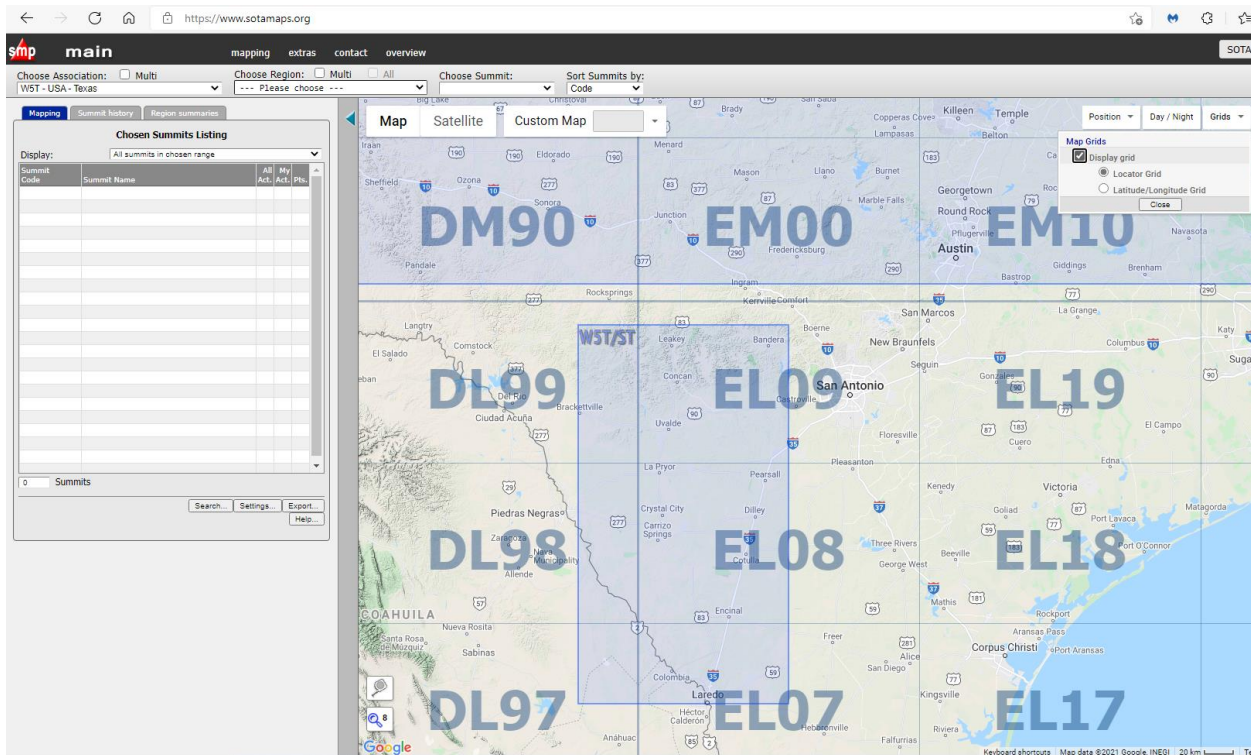
GridMapper - Grid and Station Locator - V.3

Click on the map to select a grid square, or, enter desired location.

Lat 29.649032 Lon -98.472016 Grid EL09sp Set



- SOTA Maps



This site provides SOTA (Summits On The Air) activators and chasers with various mapping resources, and is intended for all users interested in SOTA and ham radio in general.

Mapping is made possible by use of the Google Maps API, which is a software gateway to the mapping services provided by Google. This gateway requires Javascript to be enabled in your browser - otherwise, the mapping simply cannot function.

The site has five main mapping pages, each providing different sets of functionality:

Main Mapping Page

Range Mapping Page

Tracks Mapping Page

Activations Mapping Page

Chases Mapping Page

Supplementary pages in the site:

Extras

Contact

Overview

○ [DX Cluster GeoCoding](#)

dxcluster.ha8tk5.hu/hamgeocoding/

Grid square:
Locality:
Country:

© 2014 by [HA8TKS](#) Latitude: 029:36'51.68"N Longitude: 98:25'45.34"W Maidenhead locator or QTH grid square: EL09SO 87K

Find Other Hams that Live in Your Area

Once you have your Grid square you can use another tool- Amateur Radio License Map (<https://haminfo.tetranz.com/map>)

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://haminfo.tetranz.com/map>. The page has a header with "Ham Info" and "Home" links, and a "Log in" button. The main heading is "Amateur Radio License Map". Below this, there is a paragraph explaining the map's purpose: "Use this map to find amateur radio license holders in the USA. [Click here](#) for more info." This is followed by a list of instructions: "Select the type of input (callsign, gridsquare, zip code or street address) on the left.", "Enter an appropriate search value on the right.", "Hit the button.", and "Scroll down see the map." Further instructions state: "The selection determines the center of the map.", "When the map appears, you can adjust the zoom level and drag the map around. If you're looking at a sparsely populated area, you'll probably need to zoom out.", "After two seconds of not moving, it will reload with stations for the new area. You can also click on the gridsquare labels to center the map on that square. Use the 'Show grid labels' checkbox to temporarily remove the gridsquare lines and labels if they get in the way.", and "Click on a marker to see name and address info." The form includes four radio buttons for input types: "Callsign" (selected), "Gridsquare", "Zip code", and "Street address". There is a text input field labeled "Enter a callsign." and a "Show the map" button. At the bottom, there is a checkbox labeled "Show grid labels" which is checked.

With this tool, you can find other hams in your area by using:

- Callsign
- Grid square
- Zip code
- Street address

Trading Post

Did you know we have a TRADING POST classified section on our website?

<https://w5sc.org/classifieds/> Yes, and it's FREE for members to use. Items are listed for 30 days by default, but can be extended by request to webmaster.

Does it work? Yes most have sold everything posted. However, remember your audience...Hams. So, will your car or boat sell here? Maybe not, but your antenna or tower will. Since we are not having Radio Fiesta in January, you can post and sell your stuff for FREE. Recommendations, add picture, manufacturer, model number in description and of course contact info and price.

Silent Key Committee (From web master, Bill Craft, KD2HIQ)

The web site now has a silent key page [<https://w5sc.org/silent-key/>] that provides information about thinking ahead and providing forms to document what you have.

SARC does not directly buy any SK equipment, we provide a service to help loved ones dispose of equipment. The service consists of information, consulting and possibly disposal of equipment by donation.

We encourage you to plan ahead and make those hard decisions ahead of time so those who are left don't end up dumping your equipment in the trash. Not everyone plans ahead, most of us try to ignore the fact that at some point our health may fail or we may be called to meet our maker.

The goal is to help fellow hams and their families deal with this in their time of need. They do not have to be members of SARC for us to help. We offer our services to the ham community to benefit other hams and their families.

The committee can be reached by emailing SilentKey@w5sc.org



SARC has had a Groups.io. Its name is saradioclub.

If you haven't signed up for group.io, you should. Groups.io is our primary email messaging method to all club members. It is FREE for all members.

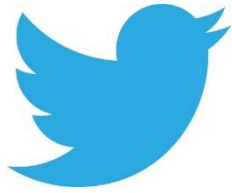
Several members have asked where are the notices, schedules and codes for Zoom meetings?

1. The groups.io calendar has a schedule of Zoom meetings and access codes.
2. The calendar can be accessed directly from the club web site <https://w5sc.org/events-calendar/> NOTE: it is the same groups.io calendar.

The saradioclub Group.io is being used to publicize SARC business meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes. Members of the saradioclub Group.io can and have asked each other technical questions or sought assistance.

The saradioclub Group.io is a closed group. To become a member, go to saradioclub.groups.io. (You may need to have a Groups.io account.) You will then need to select *Apply for membership in this group*. This generates a message. SARC members can expect approval to join the saradioclub Group.io in probably less than 24 hours.

SARC Tweets



Reminder: there are two active Twitter accounts for the San Antonio Radio Club. They are @SARadioClub and @ARadioFiesta.

The @SARadioClub is being used to publicize SARC meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes.

When work again commences the @ARadioFiesta will be used.

SARC members are encouraged to follow both Twitter accounts.

SARC Facebook



There is a San Antonio Radio Club – SARC (@saradioclub) Facebook Page.

The newsletter editor is making posts about SARC meetings and other activities. Any Officer, Committee Chairperson, or member who believes that they have information that should be posted to this page should contact the newsletter editor using the contact information for the newsletter editor on page 2 of this newsletter.

SARC members are encouraged to follow this Facebook Pa

SARC SLACK



There is a San Antonio Radio Club Slack team – w5sc.slack.com.

Slack teams are meant to foster communication between team members. Paul Guido, N5IUT, has established the w5sc.slack.com team for SARC. He has also established some channels. Think of the channels as topical areas.

To join send an email to Paul Guido, N5IUT, at radioteacher@gmail.com. In actuality, any team member already a part of the w5sc.slack.com can invite you, but Paul is known to be on it.

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
Billc851@gmail.com
210-233-8863

Amateur Radio License Classes

For more information, contact:
David Finell, N7LRY
Instructor

SARC Meeting Dates for 2022

January 13, 2022

February 10, 2022

March 10, 2022

April 14, 2022

May 12, 2022

June 9, 2022

July 14, 2022

August 11, 2022

September 8, 2022

October 13, 2022

November 10, 2022

December – No meeting

Meetings are normally held at Blanco BBQ,
13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216
at 7:00 p. m. Room is available at 6:00 p.
m. for supper

License Testing Dates for 2021

Due to Covid restrictions the normal testing site is not available. The VE Team will schedule tests as sites become available. Go to Hamtest@gmail.com if you want to schedule a test.

Times and locations along with required document information can be found on SARC's website.

SARC does all of its licensing testing as a part of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) organization so all of the Volunteer Examiners in SARC are duly authorized Volunteer Examiners of ARRL's VEC.

Radio Fiesta 2022

June 17-18, 2022

Radio Fiesta 2022 has been moved from the previous January time frame to June..

JOTA

Club members participated in JOTA and JOTI the largest Scouting event in the world at McGimsey Scout Park with the Alamo Area BSA on Saturday October 16th. Volunteers set up several stations including mobile installations and allowed scouts to contact stations as far away as England.

Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency communications, contact:
JC Smith N5RXS

Field Day 2022

FD 2021 was great, FD 2022 is coming sooner than you'd think!

Where SARC proves they are an eating group with a radio problem.